



NEWS RELEASE

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

1931 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Mall 3
Arlington, Virginia 22240-5291

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DFAS Director honored with Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive

Thomas R. Bloom, director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, was awarded the Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive, the highest-level award that can be bestowed on a civil servant in the federal government.

The Office of Personnel Management Director Kay Coles James announced, on behalf of the President, the award for “exceptional long-term accomplishments” on Nov. 15. “These senior executives are being honored for their outstanding leadership accomplishments in some of the nation’s most critical programs, such as health, commerce, education, environment, international affairs and the national defense,” said James when honoring the 55 winners of the awards.

Bloom was honored, according to the citation, for having “transformed financial management within the Department of Defense and having refocused every DFAS resource toward providing responsive, professional finance and accounting services for the people who defend America.” The citation also noted that Bloom formulated a metrics-based strategic plan, implemented a new revolutionary organizational structure while creating a customer-focus within the agency.

Bloom remarked, “I am honored to be the recipient of this award. It is a reflection of the achievements of the entire DFAS workforce and demonstrates we are achieving our vision of providing best value to our customers. We will continue to work hard to serve those who defend America.”

There are two categories in the Presidential Rank Awards Program, the Distinguished which honors less than one percent of the government’s 6,100 career Senior Executive Service leaders, and the Meritorious award which was received this year by 293 members of the SES.

About DFAS

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service is the world’s largest finance and accounting operation. DFAS is “Your Financial Partner @ Work” for the Department of Defense. The agency disburses more than \$1.2 billion dollars per business day. Annually, DFAS pays 5.5 million military members, civilian personnel, retirees and annuitants; processes more than 11 million contractor and vendor invoices, and handles nearly 7 million travel payments. The Secretary of Defense created the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in 1991 to reduce the cost of Defense Department finance and accounting operations and strengthen financial management through consolidating finance and accounting activities across the department. For more about the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, please visit <http://www.dfas.mil>.